

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended herein, with support for this amendment coming from the specification at page 9, line 32 and following. New claims 15 through 27 are introduced, with support for the subject matter therein coming from the specification at pages 3:39, 4:29, 9:33-37, 10:37-44, and also from the subject matter of the originally filed claims.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §112, ¶2

Applicants have amended claim 1 to positively recite the step of filtering the aqueous liquid using the inventive filter aids. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 USC §112, ¶2 be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §102(B)

Amended claim 1 excludes filter aids containing a ferromagnetic material. Claim 17 requires that the hydrophilic polymer segments have a polyalkylene ether structure. Weiss requires a ferromagnetic material and does not disclose use of hydrophilic polymer segments having a polyalkylene ether structure. Accordingly, present claims 1-8, 11-13, and 15-27 are not anticipated by Weiss et al. (US 3,890,224).

Detering et al. (US 5,094,867, DE 40 00 978) does not disclose the use of a polymeric material essentially made of hydrophilic polymer *segments* and hydrophobic polymer *segments*. The polymers of Detering are made by copolymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers. It is well known in the art that such reactions lead

to statistical copolymers, i.e., copolymers wherein the monomer units are randomly distributed along the polymer chain and do not form longer polymer segments.

Further, Detering discloses a process for removing heavy metal ions from wine and wine-like beverages by absorption with the polymeric material. Such a process is not a filtration process because no particulate material is removed from the liquid. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5-6, 8-9, 11, and 13 are not anticipated by these references.

#### REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103(A)

In view of the above-referenced amendments to the claims, applicants respectfully submit that the present claims contain elements which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 USC §103(a) be withdrawn.

#### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants consider that the rejections of record have been obviated and respectfully solicit passage of the application to issue.

**Please find attached a check for \$508.00 for a two month extension of time and 6 additional claims over 20.**

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Respectfully submitted,

KEIL & WEINKAUF

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David C. Liechty', written over a horizontal line.

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